Clean Up Day Coming April 22nd

The Sixth Avenue Business District will be holding its annual Clean Up Day on Wednesday, April 22, to coincide with Earth Day, and to get Sixth Avenue spruced up for the Chocolate Walk which follows on April 25th, as well as to prepare for the Fairy Festival the following month.

Look for more information on our 6th Ave Tacoma facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/6thAveTacoma) and in next month’s Newsletter. To sign up, contact marioslorenz@gmail.com.

The Board will be resurrecting the Clean Sweep Broom award as well. Businesses, please help do your part in keeping 6th Avenue clean and pleasant. Each month the Board will present the broom to a business that has kept his area clean and tidy.

The Board is also looking at three proposals to spruce up the 32 street tree wells so that they are not an unsafe eyesore.

The Chocolate Stroll Coming — A Free University Fundraiser

This event will be held on April 25. The funds will be used to get our 501c3 license and to help pay for printing costs. The event pays for itself, so the only cost for businesses to participate is the cost of chocolates and whatever marketing materials they hand out to ticket holders. We are looking for 20+ more businesses to sign up within the district. Interested parties can contact Robyn Liss at robyn@ubjourney.com.

New Wave of Tagging on 6th Ave

This month I noticed a new wave of tagging on Sixth Ave. The backs of most stop signs have been hit. It is the City of Tacoma’s responsibility to remove that.

In a previous article, I suggested that everyone who spots the tagging snap it and report it with their Tacoma-First311 app, so armed with my cell phone (Android) I went to the corner, snapped some photos of the graffiti, and started the app.

I got the loading screen, and tapped on "Report a Complaint or Make a Request." It took me to a screen with a list of possible problems. I tapped on Graffiti. (see continuation on page 3)

And my screen went gray. Time passed. I could not get back one screen by hitting the Back Button. I had to go back to my settings and stop the app.

On the way back home, I ran into my neighbor walking her dog and explained what I [continued on page 3]
SABD Manager’s Report
March 3, 2015

Continuing and potentially expanding the district newsletter is on the radar screen at this time. In order to pay for the newsletter and to provide a more far reaching publication we are looking into the cost and how much to charge for a business card size ad in the newsletter for members of the district. This information will be forthcoming in the near future and if you have an opinion please let us know.

We are planning a district clean up on April 22nd, Earth Day. Christine Brandt the principal from Jason Lee has agreed to have the after school program assist in this clean up, so all of you are asked to assist in this effort as up to 100 Jason Lee Students get prepared to help clean up the Ave. I am hoping to enlist Grant elementary in this effort as well. By doing this on the 22nd we should have the Ave cleaned up before the Chocolate walk on April 25th

The committees are filling with Robyn Liss taking on the promotions committee, Angie Lokotz the Organization Committee, Al Switzer has a plan for ground cover throughout the district that will fit nicely into the design committee, and he will head up the holiday events for the district. Casey Cowles will be in charge of the Safety committee and Christina Wheeler will be in charge of the Day of the Dead event. The usual suspects, James Tucker, Danno Rankin, Ondia Shapiro, Pete Vanrosendael, Marlene Carrillo, and others are involved with Art on the Ave. Anyone interested in getting on board with these committees should make themselves known to those in charge.

This Thursday, March 5th I will meet with the board of directors and pastor at Epworth LeSourd Church, and a member of the regional Methodist Council from Des Moines, along with a developer to see how we may proceed to make the church which is scheduled to close June 30th into a community center. There is interest from the district for storage, meeting space and a place to hold events. Al Switzer has expressed interest in working for an event center along with his Santa and holiday ideas. The Tacoma Food Coop may be interested in a place to hold classes, there has been inquiry from a pet food bank to have space for their operation, and there are already 4 or 5 twelve-step groups meeting there. I know that if there is the will there is a way to make this happen. Any ideas and or sources of revenue are appreciated.

Happy Valentine’s Day
In Love and Service,
Mario Lorenz, SABD Manager
New Wave of Tagging [continued from page 1]

was trying to do. She downloaded the app on her iPhone. I texted her the photo of the graffiti and she went through the same steps. Her complaint went through and she registered the complaint.

My next complaint to the City will be that their TacomaFirst311 app does not work on an Android phone.

Here is a repeat of last month’s column. Some members have requested that this appear in each issue so that they have it at hand.

Combat Tagging/Graffiti

A common problem for all businesses on Sixth Ave is Tagging or Graffiti. Our Tacoma Police CLO, Darren Skaanes (dskaanes@cityoftacoma.org) offered a plan of attack for businesses who are tagged. Whether you are the owner of the building or the tenant, it is advisable to take care of it as quickly as possible, because it will keep the district cleaner and be a deterrent to taggers. Be advised, that officers are not generally sent out to look at graffiti unless it is a gang-related offense. The goal is to have the offending tags painted over within 48 hours. If the tags are not removed after 18 days, you will be notified by the City to remove it at your expense.

Take a photo of the tag(s) and send via cell phone to dskaanes@cityoftacoma.org

Report it to TacomaFIRST 311 (http://www.cityoftacoma.org/cms/one.aspx?objectId=41280)

- Paint over the graffiti.
- Gray Lumber offers a paint matching service. Paint over the graffiti, wrap the brush in a plastic baggie secured with a rubber band, and keep it in the fridge. It will keep indefinitely.
- Goof Off Pro Strength (recommended by Tom at NW Costume, and sold at Gray Lumber) will help remove the graffiti.

There is strength in numbers. If we band together to eliminate the tagging, we will eventually prevail. Taggers will move on.
Make Plans for Spring Fairy Festival

Angela Wehnert, the owner of Crescent Moon Gifts 2502 Sixth Ave, will be hosting her annual Spring Fairy Festival (http://www.springfairyfestival.com/) at her beautiful, spacious store on the Avenue this year, and she is looking forward to more partnering with the 6th Avenue Business District.

This will be a big event. She will be holding a block party with about fifty 10x10 vendor tents featuring music, entertainment, tea parties, face painters, performers, magicians, parade, free events. She will bring in over a thousand people for the day. Start planning sales and contact her for cross-promotional opportunities.
Can This Church be Saved?
Epworth LeSourd Church to Close June 30

At the corner of South 7th and Anderson Street is a magnificent old church that will close on June 30. Why is this of interest to Sixth Avenue businesses?

Because, unbeknownst to many of you, this church has played a role in many SABD activities since 1999. The church basement is where many of us met week after week to create wonderful Day of the Dead masks. The church is where the annual SABD clean up has been centered for a number of years to organize, give out supplies and host after-cleanup entertainment, prizes and refreshments. This church is where SABD supplies have been stored; where community meetings have been hosted, and it is also where the Newsletter is printed. Each month, Dave Parker prints 300 copies of the Newsletter so that they can be distributed to all businesses on the Ave before the General Membership Meetings held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Last week Mario Lorenz our Sixth Avenue Business District manager, Dave Parker our SABD Newsletter printer, Kevin Grossman President of the Hilltop Business District, Dan McCormack of South Sound Pano, and I toured the church. The building is beautiful, majestic, and large. Simply stated: They don’t make churches like this any more, and likely will never do so again. This church has served the Sixth Avenue neighborhood for 125 years, since 1889. This building, the third one they built in the district, was constructed in 1925. At one time, over 600 people, most living the Sixth Avenue District, made it their church home. A slow decline over many years has finally reached the point where finances and participation have caused the remaining congregation to vote to discontinue as a church, effective June 30, 2015.

What would it take to save the building as a community center for the Sixth Avenue district? A large influx of cash, a lot of legwork procuring grants, the cooperation of the City with its Adaptive Reuse policy, even historic preservation is a route that could be taken. But it involves effort. Contact marioslorenz@gmail.com with your ideas, dollars, or thoughts.

By Angie Lokotz with Dave Parker. Photos by Dan McCormack.
SABD General Meeting 2/10/15
Call to order by President Dan Smith at 9:02 am

Introductions

Approval of Minutes/Greg CW; 2nd by Dave Parker

Treasurer’s Report/Peter Vanrosendael:
Bills are being paid, but less $ are coming in.
$7701.69 in account. Spending is up; membership is down. AoA
financing is trickling in.
22 members have paid dues so far. Recruit new members. The
more the merrier.

Budget Update:
$11K allotted for Art on the Ave (AoA). Day of the
Dead (DoD) and Xmas Event added to Events.
$42K is projected Revenue
$33,800 is projected Bills
$4K from City of Tacoma
$10K from AoA
$7 K from Membership
$500 each from Central and North End Neighborhoods
Looking for a charitable donation for meeting space.

Motion to approve Budget by Chris CW; second by Dave Par-
er. Pass.

CLO Report/Darren Skannes:
This month looked good for 6th Ave. Only 4 vehicle prowls
(1/15, 1/16, 1/17 at 6th & Pine). No new graffiti calls. 1 burglary.
Businesses be on the lookout for “distract & reach” type crimes.
Keep your counters and doors wiped down and clean (easier to
get prints if you call in a crime). Complaint about transients in
area. Cops do try to contact them and explain what services are
available to them. Businesses, work together to inform each
other of suspicious people. Develop a phone tree/email tree/
secret knock/etc.

Councilman Robert Thoms Report:
• Cannabis - 502 recommendations decided; medical is still
to be determined. 6th Ave currently has 4 medical and 2 recrea-
tional businesses. Thoms sees Washington’s strength and
growth in marijuana crops (turning our agri business knowledge
toward growing the crop).
• Sick Leave - Law passed, effective 2/1/16. Look for emails
discussing the impact to small businesses.
Tacoma311 - Download the app. Great way to get City’s atten-
tion to problems. Take pic with cell phone and hit send.

City Dept. of Economic Development Report/Carol Wolfe:
• FAQ for the Sick Leave Policy from the City.
Check City resources for help for small businesses:
  Tip Sheet for Restaurants
  Occupancy & Adaptive Reuse
  Dev. Finance Institutions: Gap finance & Small Busi-
ness Banking
• Mayor’s State of the City Address on 2/25, 11:30 at the
Convention Center $40 in advance.
• March 6 at 9:00 am & March 4 at 3:00 pm the exec board
to meet with Dev. Council; One on One; discuss small business
climate
AoA receives 3-4I from the City

Community Based Services Report by Allison Griffith/ Graffiti:
• Rapid graffiti removal a must.
• 6th Ave experiencing a spike lately
• Murals are great deterrent
• Report it!! on Tacoma311 App (best because you can send
location & photo) or dial 311 in City (humans answer the phone)
• Property owners responsibility to remove graffiti within 18
days or fine for owner
• Remark from business owners that the City should also be
responsible for removing their graffiti (on public property) within 18
days
• Street Operations handles graffiti removal
If businesses sign up, city will remove 3 times
Questions to Allison: 591-5119 or graffiti@cityoftacoma.org

Young Business Men/Report by Thrett Brown:
• Mr. Brown saw gang problems in Tacoma and created a
way to counteract that with Young Business Men
• His kids participate in Paint Tacoma, AoA, they help and
volunteer
• His message: Change the music; change the culture
Seed funding is a need
threttbrown.simplesite.com (blog); youngbusinessmen.org
(website)

District Manager Report/Mario Lorenz:
Thrett Brown transforms lives
Epworth LeSourd church is closing; 6th Ave is losing a great
resource; Contact Mario if you want tour

Member Announcements:
• Peter Vanrosendael: Art on the Avenue Committee
meets every Monday at 6:00 pm at the former John L. Scott
building on 6th Ave & Stevens. Their presentation is about 85%
complete. Don’t be shy. Come down and see what's happening.
• Angela Wehnert: Crescent Moon Gifts will be holding its
Spring Faerie Festival (5/30/15 from 10 am to 7 pm) at her new
location on 6th Avenue this year. She will be holding a block
party with about fifty 10x10 vendor tents featuring music, enter-
tainment, tea parties, face painters, performers, magicians, pa-
rade, free events. She will bring in over a thousand people for
the day. Start planning sales and contact her for cross-
promotional opportunities.

Farmers Market: 6th Avenue has cool banners on its light poles.
Farmers Market would like to hang attachment banners advertis-
ing the Farmers Market during their season. 5/5/15 is opening of
Farmers Market. Their Harvest Festival is in September. They
are looking for reciprocity from area businesses. Please contact
them for cross-promotional opportunities.

Motion to approve hanging Farmers Market banners 2
weeks before opening til 2 weeks after harvest festival. Ca-
sey Cowles/second by Christopher List. Pass
Meeting adjourned 10:10 am
Respectfully submitted,
Angie Lokotz, Secretary
Members, 2014

- A+ Driving School, Latonya Gore & Sean Harris, 253-272-5869, 608 North Oakes
- Ace Remodel, Kelly Jees, 206-856-0745, 325 Washington Ave. So., Kent WA 98032
- Bluebeard Coffee Roasters, Kevin McGlocklin, 253-272-5600, 2201 Sixth Avenue
- Center for Spiritual Living, Rev. Frances Lorenz, 253-383-3151, 206 No. J St.
- Chalk Talk Bistro, Mike Sanford, 206-290-5765, 2301 Pacific Avenue
- City of Destiny Float & Massage, Marca Ouida, 253-792-9735, 406 Ea. 26th St.
- Commencement Bay Animal Hospital, Dr. Karen Comer, 253-475-5301, 3511 Sixth Avenue
- Connect Realty, Christopher List, 253-219-3041, 3407 So. 7th St.
- Connections Fine Jewelry, Tom Donnelly, 253-475-0751, 3108 Sixth Avenue #A
- Constellation Art Gallery, Stella Maris Vera, 253-625-7107, 3013 6th Avenue Ste B
- Creatively Unique Gifts, Joan Johnson, 253-383-4438, 3009 Sixth Avenue
- Epworth LeSourd United Methodist Church, Dave Parker, 253-370-6208, 710 So. Anderson St.
- Family Real Estate, Steven Weinman, 253 475 1884, 608 South Washington Street
- Fediay, Nick, Nick Fediay, P.O. Box 3336, 360-507-7001, Lacey WA 98509
- Foundation Escrow, Jolyne Baines, 253-222-8835, 4119 Sixth Avenue
- Gateway to India, C. J. Singh, 253-552-5022, 2603 Sixth Avenue
- Goodwill, Sarah Butler, 253-759-3779, 5401 Sixth Ave
- Gray Lumber Co., Steve Gray, 253-752-7000, 3800 Sixth Ave.
- Green Kross, Kahn Shakirov, 206-267-0337, 3014 Sixth Avenue
- H & R Block, Julie Lomas, Ron Pinckney, Bert McKinney, 253-383-5603, 360-265-2010, 2411 Sixth Avenue
- Half Pint, Josh Norris, 253-272-2531, 2710 Sixth Avenue
- Health Connection, The, Jenny Schwartz, 253-396-1000, 601 So. Pine St. Suite 201
- Jason Lee Middle School, Kelli Johnston/Mary Boone/ Christine Brandt, 253-571-7755, 602 No. Sprague Ave.
- Jazzbones, Daniel Rankin, 253-396-9169, 2803 Sixth Avenue
- John L. Scott Tacoma No., Debbi Anderson, 253-752-1025, 4424 Sixth Avenue Suite 1,
- Jon’s Barber Shop, Jon Tryfon, 253-752-5162, 3825 1/2 Sixth Avenue
- Just Loving Care Farm, Jeff & Lisa Breiner, 253-441-8811, 843 So. Pine St.
- Laughter Masters, Mario Lorenz, 816 So. L St., 253-272-6622
- Laundry Mart, Rose Mathes, 5401 Sixth Avenue, 253-752-6100
- Law Offices of Terry E. Lumsden, Terry Lumsden, 253-537-4434, 3517 Sixth Avenue, Suite 200
- Lawn Equipment Repair, Al Switzer, 253 756 7459, 3519 1/2 Sixth Avenue
- Mandelin’s Consignment, Rachael Kragelund, 253-301-3383, 2714 Sixth Avenue
- Marta Gronlund, 253-448-8282, 614 So. Oakes St.
- Marlene Carrillo, 253-534-6563, 2588 Pacific Hwy E
- Mary’s Auto Repair, Mary Gianancoli, 253-341-4855, 6425 Sixth Avenue
- Michele Malec, 253-272-6336, 710 No. Fifc St.
- Minuteman Press, Casey Cowles, 253-474-9900, 2941 So. 38th St. Ste C
- MSM Deli, Mike Mohamed, 253-272-4814, 2220 Sixth Ave.
- Mt. Tahoma Seventh Day Adventist Church, Pastor Kevin Rogers, 253-572-6470, 615 No. Sprague Ave.
- North China Garden, Andy and Jenny Yee, 253-5725106, 2303 Sixth Avenue
- Northwest Float Center, Alex Ziegler, 253-212-0360, 3907 Sixth Avenue
- Pierce County Community Newspaper Group, John Weymer, 253-922-5317, 2588 Pacific Highway Ea., Fife WA 98245
- Primo Grill, Jacqueline Platner, 253-383-7000, 6th Avenue at Oakes
- Reclamation Candle Company, Tammi and Barney Loucks, 360-770-3806, 751 St. Helens Avenue
- Satori, Diamond Sanger, 253-272-0910, 2503 Sixth Avenue
- Seabury School, Sandy Wollum, 253-952-3111, 1801 NE 53rd St.
- Shakabra Java, Tina Kalowski, 253-572-2787, 2618 Sixth Avenue
- Southern Exposure, Gloria Gentry, Angela Hernandez, 253-272-2514, 2715 Sixth Avenue
- Starbucks, Janelle Graciano, 253-572-9525, 601 So. Pine Ste 100
- Starbucks, Jessica Hamilton, 253-272-1023, 2008 Sixth Avenue
- Tacoma Custom Jewelers, Dan Smith, 253-572-0508, 3013 Sixth Avenue, Suite A
- Tacoma Food Co-op, Vickie, 253-627-3344, 3002 Sixth Avenue
- Tacoma Bike, Mike Brown, 3010 Sixth Avenue
- Tacoma Frame Makers, Kim Weiser, 253-564-2320, 3013 Sixth Avenue, Suite C
- Tacoma Games, Loren Hess, 253-301-2137, 2509 Sixth Avenue
- Tandem Gear, Dmitry Mikheyev, 253-301-3026, 3019 Sixth Avenue, Suite B
- TAPCO Credit Union, Elizabeth Stewart, 253-565-9895, 2802 Sixth Avenue

[continued on page 8]
Applicants Sought for the Tacoma Arts Commission

The Tacoma City Council is looking to fill one At-Large position on the Tacoma Arts Commission.

The Commission consists of 15 volunteer members who are appointed by the Economic Development Committee and confirmed by the City Council to serve three-year terms. Members are Tacoma residents who are arts advocates and artists.

Providing leadership in supporting and enhancing the arts for the benefit of Tacoma and its residents, the primary responsibility of the Commission is to create policies supporting the ongoing development of arts programs and projects in Tacoma. Its primary programs include the funding of artists and arts organizations to provide services for the residents of Tacoma, Tacoma Arts Month, and oversight of public art as part of the Municipal Art Program.

The Commission's functions are outlined in chapters 1.28A and 1.28B of the Tacoma Municipal Code.

For additional information on the Tacoma Arts Commission, please contact Naomi Strom-Avila at (253) 591-5191 or nstrom-avila@cityoftacoma.org.

Applications must be submitted to the City Clerk’s Office by Friday, March 13, 2015. To apply, please visit cityoftacoma.org/cbcapplication or contact Nicole Emery at servetacoma@cityoftacoma.org, (253) 591-5178, or the City Clerk’s Office, Room 11, Municipal Building North, 733 Market St., Tacoma, WA 98402.